

Valley Star

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May 9, 1996

Ray Richmond: Valley's Most Famous Critic

by John Tarr
Valley Star Staff Writer

What would make a top television critic for the Daily News leave his hard-earned position behind and start a new career?

A better job of course. Starting May 9, Ray Richmond, a Valley College alumnus, will be working for the Daily Variety, a trade publication for the entertainment industry.

"It's a real opportunity and honor because Variety is such a respected trade publication," said Richmond of his upcoming move. "It's not often you get a chance to change your whole direction and get a new challenge at the age of 38."

Richmond started his journalism career at Valley College, graduating with an AA in journalism in 1977. From there he enrolled at Humboldt State for a year. Richmond transferred his credits from Humboldt to Cal State Northridge where he received his bachelor's degree in journalism in 1980.

He had been working for the Daily News since November of 1978 where he started writing features on a part-time basis. From there he turned to writing entertainment pieces and some radio reviews. In 1984 he took over the position of television critic which he has held ever since.

It was a difficult decision for Richmond to leave the Daily News for the Daily Variety. "I really like and respect everyone at the paper (the Daily News). They treated me extremely well. They actually, really flatteringly enough, tried to keep me there by

offering me more money."

The new position has opened a new chapter in Richmond's life, capping off an interesting segment of memories. "I used to do all kinds of daredevil stuff. I ran a marathon at Humboldt, rode a bicycle across the country, jumped out of an airplane and wrestled a bear."

You wrestled a bear?

"I wrestled a bear that had been declawed and defanged. The bear was 8'11" and 480 pounds so you run up to it and say, okay, if I can get his legs I can get him down. But the bear brushed me off like a piece of lint. It taught me I probably don't want to wrestle bears anymore."

At the Daily News, Richmond was critiquing television shows and doing personality profiles. But at the Daily Variety, it is a lot more business oriented. "I'll be writing for the industry instead of for the public. It's really more of a business beat," said Richmond.

The pressure is on now, the competition is fierce for finding scoops. You have to do a lot more lunches, a lot more schmoozing and there are more unnamed sources when you're in the big leagues, according to Richmond.

Richmond has been struggling in the AAA (an analogy comparing the Daily News to baseball's minor leagues) for a long time.

What was it like in the AAA? "It's fun but you're always kind of bubbling just underneath the surface, waiting for your shot at the big time. I'm in the show now."

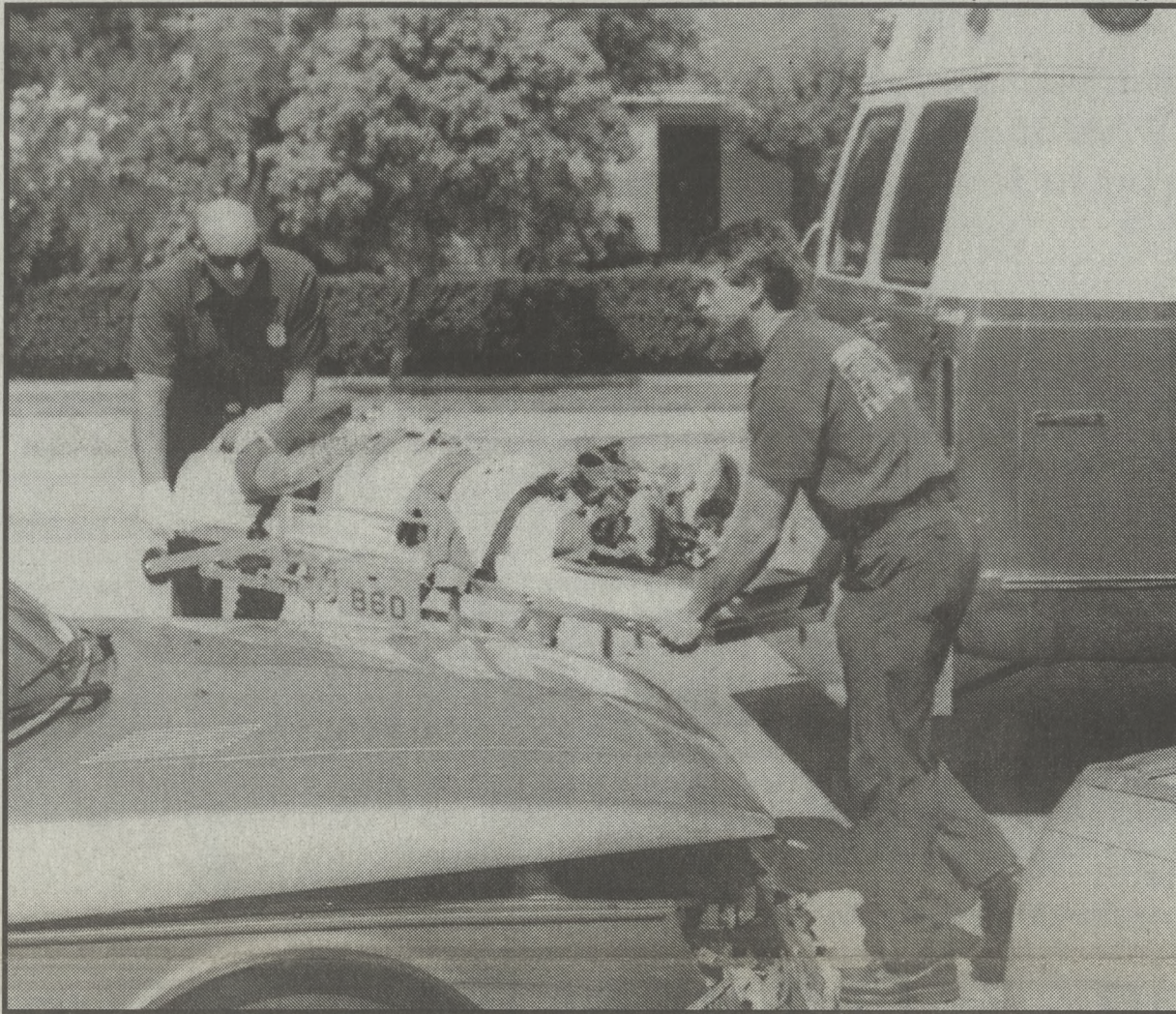
Along with new pressures brought about by the transition into entertainment industry report-

Critic, continued on page 5

Campus Shaken By Auto Accidents

From the street to the campus: jumping curbs and barreling through barriers

Photo by Nancy Sward-Flannagan



Valeska Cap, Valley College student, was taken by ambulance to a nearby hospital after being involved in an auto accident.

by John Tarr
Valley Star Staff Writer

Within a space of 24 hours, two automobile accidents occurred, on and around the Valley College campus.

The first accident happened at approximately 10 a.m. Friday, May 3 on Fulton St. between Burbank and Hillview Park Ave. A gray El Camino driven by Valeska Cap, a Valley College student, crashed into a tree on campus after being hit by a gray Saab driven by Elana Gilmore, another Valley College student.

Witnesses said the Saab was turning left onto Fulton from parking lot A and apparently did not see the El Camino heading northbound on Fulton in the number one lane. Cap was hit broadside, pushing her car into the center dividing lane. Possibly fearing a collision with oncoming traffic, Cap attempted to swerve and her vehicle went out of control.

The El Camino turned sharply to the right and jumped the curb. Cap's vehicle brushed a light pole which one witness said may have kept the El Camino from flipping. Cap hit a tree on Valley College property head-on before finally coming to a stop.

Cap was complaining of neck pains when paramedics arrived on the scene. She was fitted with a neck brace and rushed to Riverside Emergency at the North Hollywood Medical Center.

At press time, the LAPD Traffic Division had not assigned liability for the accident.

The second accident occurred at 4:45 a.m. Saturday, May 4 on Ethel Ave. and Hatteras St. when a white Thunderbird crashed through a pole barrier. The Thunderbird laid down 75 feet of

Crash continued on page 5

Computer Skills Class Keeps Moving Along

By Adam Adler
Valley Star Staff Writer

After a rough start the Computer Skills Class in the Afternoon College has settled into a normal routine. The problems of over-

crowding and some lack of instructors that troubled the course in the beginning have seemed to work themselves out. Opinions as to how effective the class has been have been mixed.

When the class began on Feb. 21 the organizers expected to enroll about 35 students, the amount that enrolled the previous semester. Almost 250 students enrolled in the class. The load of students was accommodated by opening additional section of the class and by getting permission to use extra computer labs.

With the extra measures taken the classes still remained crowded. At first there was a rush to find enough instructors to cover all the classes. There were two to three students on a single computer and the classes were put on a rotation schedule to give everyone lab time. Some Valley College students were upset that they could not use the labs in Business/ Journalism because the high school students were using all but one of them.

The Afternoon College, also known as Tech Prep, will finish its semester on May 22. Opinions as to how well the Computer Skills class went are mixed. Some of

the overcrowding has alleviated itself due to normal dropouts. Regular instructors have been found for the classes. The labs are still unavailable to Valley students during the Tech Prep class hours but the hours are posted.

Frank Bullock, a counselor at John H. Francis Polytechnic High School, expressed that he liked all of the classes in the Tech Prep program. He expressed special regard for the Computer Skills class. The class is very valuable to his school because they lack the resources to teach computers skills there.

Don Mangani, a counselor from Monterey Continuation School, said he heard nothing but good things about the English and math departments. However, he did think that his students had learned more at their home school about computers because they had a particularly good program there. Mangani's main concern was getting enough good teachers to handle the excess of students that registered for the class. He commented "The computer thing was a whole fiasco. I walked in with my six or seven students and the hallway was full of people." Tech continued on page 5



Ginger Takeshita, Valley College student and CCCFD member, performs an interpretation of "Too much is Enough" by Kathleen Tyau.

Photo by Maria Ivey

Campus Clips:

L.A.V.C.'s Cinema Arts Department presents student film projects from beginning and advanced film workshops this past year which will be screened on the big screen in the Little Theatre (TA Bldg.) on Sat., May 18 at 8 p.m. Admission is free and open to all. No reservation is required. For more info., call Chair Joe Daccurso at extension 354.

A reception and presentation ceremony honoring retirees and employees who have reached the District milestone employment years will be held on Thurs., May 9 at 1:30 p.m. at the Valley Galley. Those honored will be recognized for reaching milestones of 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service as well as those faculty and staff members who will be retiring. Refreshments will be also be served.

The 2nd annual Valley Heritage Fair will be held at Valley College on Memorial Weekend, May 25-27 at the Valley College Stadium. The fair is a production of the All American Heritage Foundation, Inc., a non-profit foundation dedicated to "Americans with different cultural backgrounds, woven and working together for UNITY." For more information call (818) 349-5680.

On Tues., May 14 the Scholarship Award Dinner will be held from 4:30-7 p.m. in Monarch Hall.

This year's Spring Graduation will be held on Thurs., May 23 at 4:30 p.m. All faculty and staff are invited to attend. The All College Dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m. after the graduation ceremony at the Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City.

On Saturday, June 1, the sixth annual Making Strides Against Cancer move-along-a-thon will be held by the American Cancer Society. The 5K route starts at the Burbank Media District where the route includes a midpoint festival at the Warner Bros. Studio Ranch along with a health fair and entertainment at Johnny Carson Park following the event. Donations for this non-

competitive event help raise funds for the Society's cancer research, education and patient services programs. To obtain a sponsor form or a team captain kit, call (818) 377-3412.

Fall 1996 Registration schedules will be available on May 9. Student Guarantee Day is May 15. and May 22-June 11 will be phone registration for continuing students. Walk-in registration begins June 10.

Revolution Number Nineteen Ninety-Nine

by John Fitzgerald Beck
Valley Star Staff Writer

My father clips things out of the newspaper that he thinks might be relative to my work and passes them on to me.

Last week on the flip side of an excellent article about new CD technologies, I stumbled across part of a story about "the communications revolution".

You know, here was another communications executive waxing epochal about *the revolution*: "This alliance of nontraditional partners - telephone and cable," he pontificated, "will revolutionize what is delivered over your telephone, your cable television and your computer!"

But wait a minute. What about last month's *information revolution*? And last year's?

For all the hype, the "information revolution" has always been elusive, and has seldom unfolded as advertised.

Remember the picture phone? Has the Internet really changed your life (yet)? Did interactivity alter the course of television, and thus the nature of news and culture as the propaganda ministers of *the revolution*, circa 1975, earnestly promised?

On the other hand, who would have predicted 10 years ago that TV-Home-Shopping would explode into a \$2 billion business?

Now, once again, there is widespread excitement that something *big* is under way and it is accompanied by distress about being left behind.

Middle-aged men who belong to country clubs and fly around in corporate jets now anxiously read *Wired*, the hip digital culture magazine, just to keep up (they hope) with the cutting edge. Oh,

ter about the information highway, the information "skyway" (wireless telephones) and ever more powerful computers, sane people have the right to feel fatigued. Not only that but life does not feel all that different.

The quality of television certainly has not improved; the promise of 500 channels still hasn't materialized; and people still struggle

and doesn't like.

Technology does not solve marriage problems or career frustrations and - if today's television is any indication - it may be of little help rearing children.

Historic advances in technology have invariably been accompanied by a cycle of hyperbole followed by disillusionment. We simultaneously overestimate the short-term impact while underestimating the long-term impact.

Once upon a time, the word revolution conjured up images of bloody peasant uprisings in China or ragged guerrillas in Cuba overthrowing a dictatorship of the rich. A revolution was an angry upheaval of the power structure, a word usually associated with violence.

In America today, "revolution" has become a marketing buzzword most often invoked by buttoned-down business executives at telephone companies, movie studios and computer companies.

They blather on and on about the *information revolution* and the *communications revolution*, and say, in effect, if you thought sliced bread was something, wait 'till we really transform peoples lives (and, in the process, make lots and lots of money).



But wait a minute.

What about last month's information revolution? And last year's?

something big is going on all right, but no one is sure just what.

Is it the Internet's ever-expanding network of computers that links millions of people and provides access to documents and archives around the world? Is it telephone systems that will soon let people order movies and video games at the punch of a button? What about hand held computers - personal digital assistants - that can read your handwriting and are supposed to help organize your life?

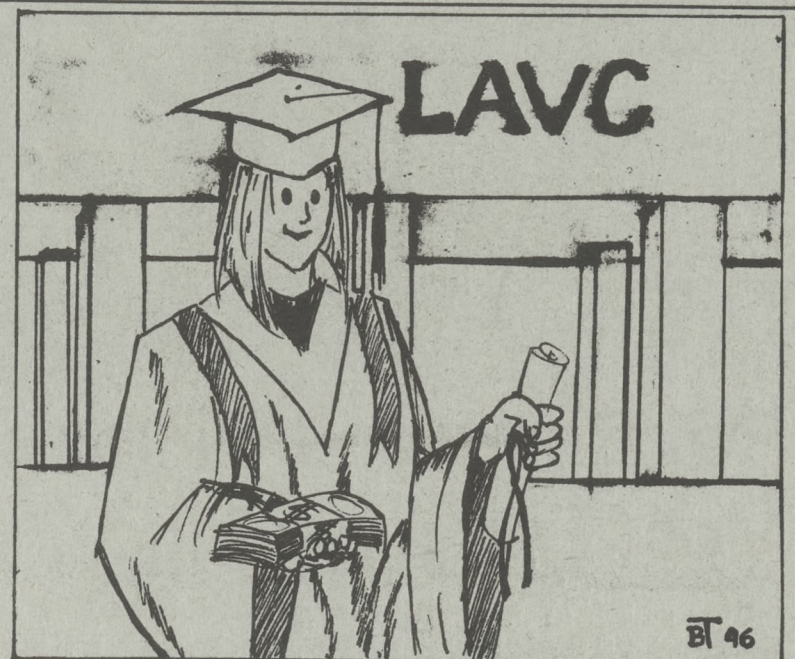
Confronted by marketing blus-

to pay their bills, fight rush hour traffic, balance their checkbooks and *balance their lives*.

Have we been had?

Maybe...maybe not; but we are undoubtedly being oversold.

Many technology experts are convinced that telecommunications and information really are in a state of revolution that could affect people as much as the introduction of television and telephones. But the changes are chaotic and unpredictable, since events are ultimately determined by what the public decides it likes



Community College Benefits Everyone

Editorial

What do you want to be when you grow up? A question that every one of us has been asked at some time in our life. For many, this is not an easy question to answer. It is hard to decide what you want to do "for the rest of your life." Especially in this day and age when men and women, who have the desire and motivation, can become almost anything they want to be.

The advent of the community college system in the 1960s has been a definite asset to society as a whole. It has provided us, as high school graduates, with an alternative to the previous option we had of going straight to a university. A university education, while respected, is an increasingly expensive endeavor, and for the student who is not sure of what they want to do, it can become even more expensive.

Not only is a community college less expensive than a university, it also offers students the opportunity to take classes in areas that

they feel they are interested in without costing a fortune. The community college system also offers a variety of programs to help students who wish to continue their education.

The Transfer Alliance Program helps students select a curriculum which is designed to meet the general education requirements needed to transfer to a university. Students who complete this program are admitted to a university with a junior status. This option has been very successful for the community college as well as the student.

Community colleges offer other services such as basic health care services, many informative lectures and workshops, and they offer community service programs like CPR training, sports lessons, hobby and computer workshops.

They offer day and evening classes for those of us who have employment commitments. For a working person who wishes to change careers or keep up with the latest technology in their profession, the community college is a wonderful tool.

Immigration - A Different Perspective

by Carmen Pinto
Valley Star Staff Writer

Immigrants, whether Latinos or any other nationality, all have one thing in common. They come into a new country to seek opportunities and more importantly, to find a better life for themselves and their family. The same reasons your parents, grandparents or great-grandparents immigrated to the United States, unless of course, your ancestors are Native Americans.

According to our U.S. history, the great majority of immigrants are harmless, hard-working, fair, and generally good people. There is no such thing as a free lunch and you can bet immigrants know that better than anyone else because contrary to popular belief, they contribute plenty to our economy as consumers, renters, and tax payers.

Unfortunately, "illegal" immigrants are today's scapegoats. The Republican politicians, and never mind their reputation for un-reliability, have decided that "illegal" im-

migrants, specifically Latinos, must bear the blame for other's mistakes. Proposition 187 is today's perfect example of U.S. history's habit to accept and conveniently point a guilty finger at any geographical, national, or tribal ethnic group when the economy may seem somewhat shaky or when hard news issues arise.

Proposition 187 passed with shocking percentages, and even more shocking to some of us, was the knowledge and experience so many of the voters did not have. "Over 19% of Latinos/Chicanos voted in favor of, approximately 80% of Caucasian voted in favor of, over 67% of African-Americans voted in favor of, and approximately 60% of Asians voted in favor of Prop. 187!" exclaimed student Frank Zuniga who closely followed the results.

African-Americans, Chinese, Native Americans, Jews, Koreans, etc. have all been targeted and have all been victims of such politics. Those with this knowledge and some first-hand experience at inequality should realize and should keep an open mind to all sides of an issue before accepting anything from

the so-called authority figure.

History now seems to be repeating itself. Except now, it is becoming harder for me to distinguish between the "two evils" as Congress has considered a law that would give children of illegal immigrants absolutely no privileges and little or no rights, even when the children themselves are U.S. citizens. But does Congress have that right?

'History now seems to be repeating itself. Except now, it is becoming harder for me to distinguish between the "two evils..."

According to the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, "All persons born or naturalized in the U.S. and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the U.S. and of the State wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens

of the U.S.; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of the law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

As a previous history minor, I strongly believe individual rights should prioritize government power and control. History major, Ricio Rodriguez, agrees, "It's very unwise to allow the government to take control over any of our rights. The results can be devastating, I just ask you to pick up a couple of history books and see for yourself."

And whether you wish to accept it or not, the U.S. has admitted more immigrants than any other country as that diversity has greatly contributed to the nations achievements in free enterprise, science, technology, art, music, sports, literature, and political expression.

I echo the words of political science major, Solon Castillo, "The informed, involved citizens are the best insurance for a continued free representative government."

Campus Forum

April 25, 1996

May 10, 1996

To: The Valley Star

To: Valley Star Editor

As the Director of the Job Resource Center (formerly Placement Office) I felt compelled to write a response to this student's request for information regarding the movement of the job listings that used to be posted outside Campus Center 116.

There have been signs regarding the move posted since the office itself moved to Bungalow 48 the week of January 8. Also, signs were posted in the old cases outside Campus Center 116. Therefore, I must take exception to K. Timmins statement that no notice, warning or anything was given.

Hanna Pettersson
Director, Cooperative Education
Job Resource Center

Attention CAT lovers! Valley College has been over-run with stray cats. They are well fed, but, neither spayed, neutered or vaccinated. Please capture and care for one of these critters ASAP. Animal Control will be notified as the potential for disease increases with each generation left unchecked.

Thank you for preventing further cruelty.

M. Garret
Valley College Student



Adam Adler
Editor-in-Chief

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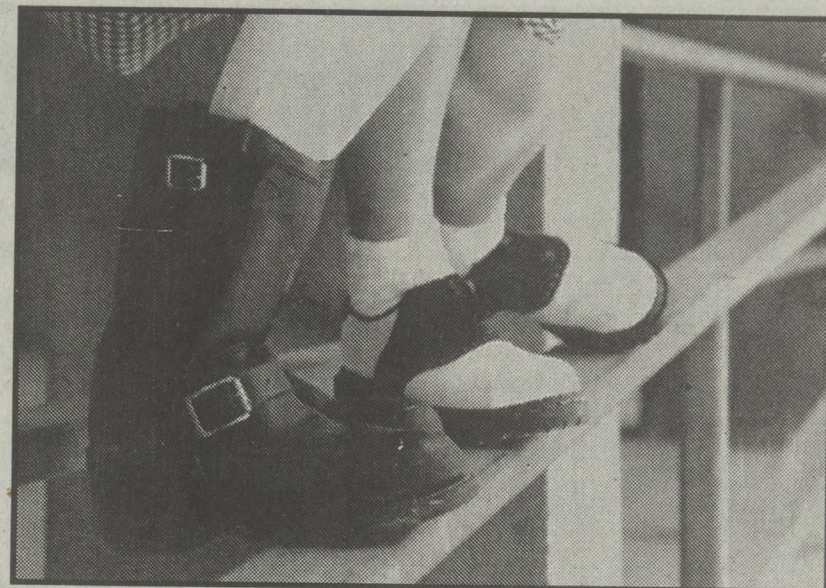
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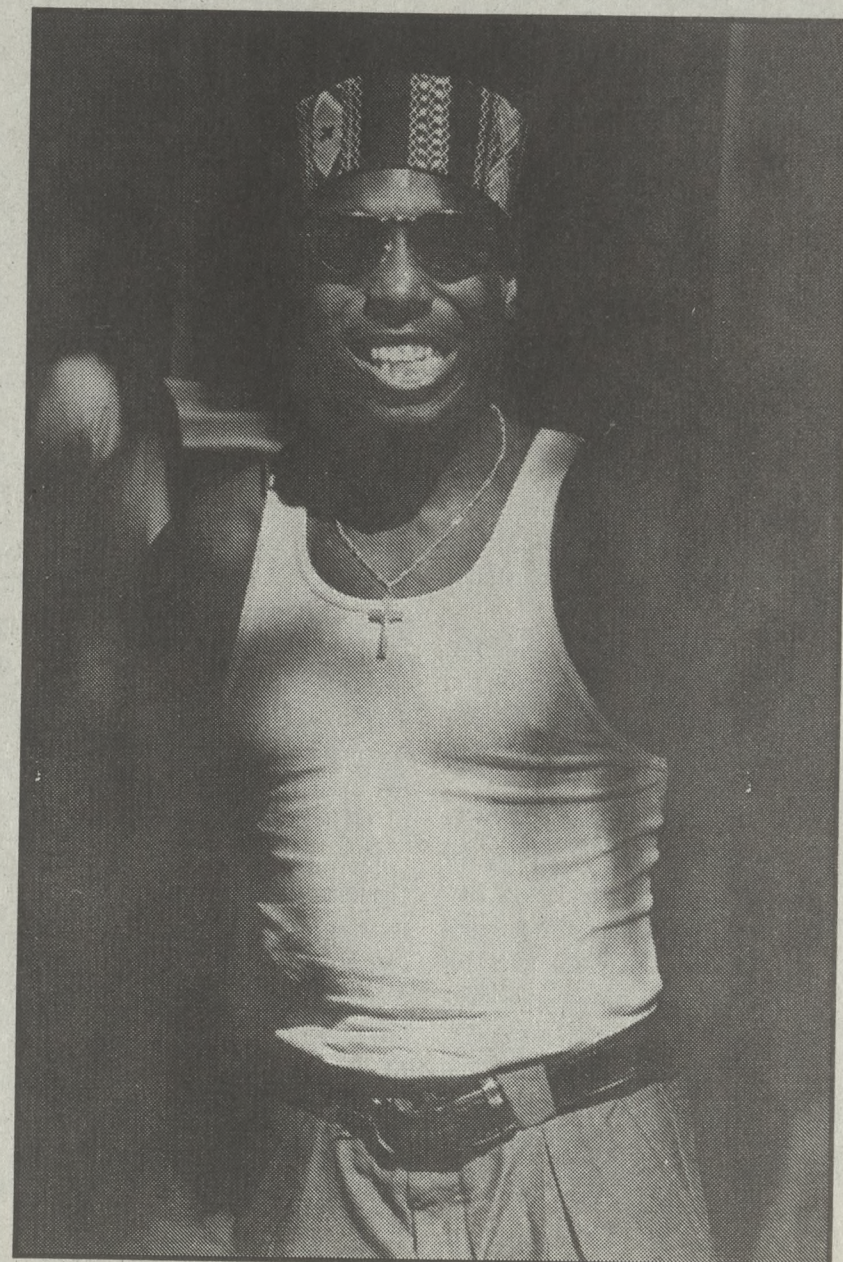
employee thereof The Valley Star will receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers. The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations. Letter must be signed and include student's ID number. Letters may be dropped at the Valley Star Bungalow 25, by Monday morning for the following Thursday.



No, this is not Hawaii, we are still here on campus.

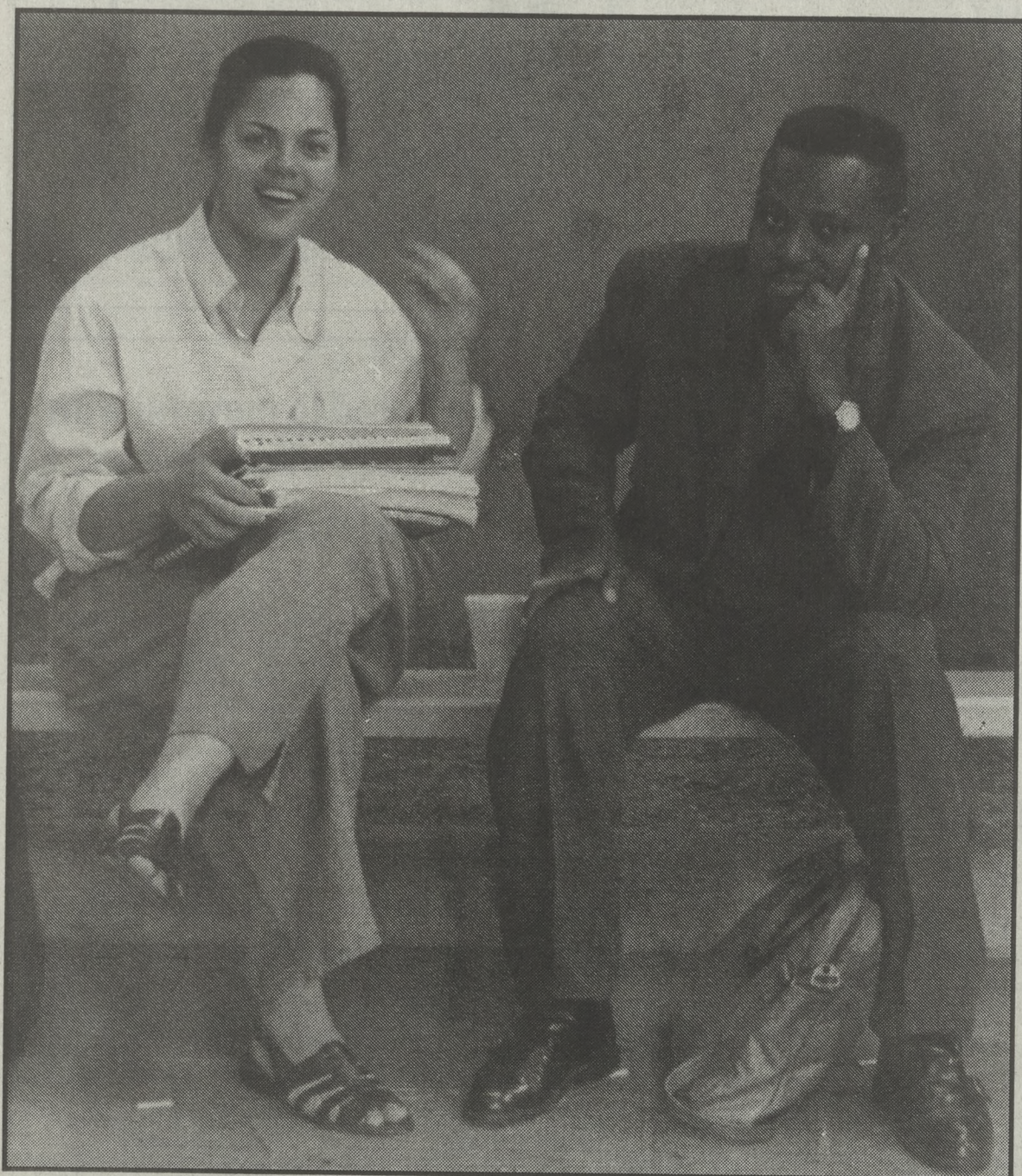


Which would you prefer? Biker boots or saddle shoes



'Good to see yaa!' Michael's style is always dynamic.

Fashion On Campus



Casual and formal on the same bench.

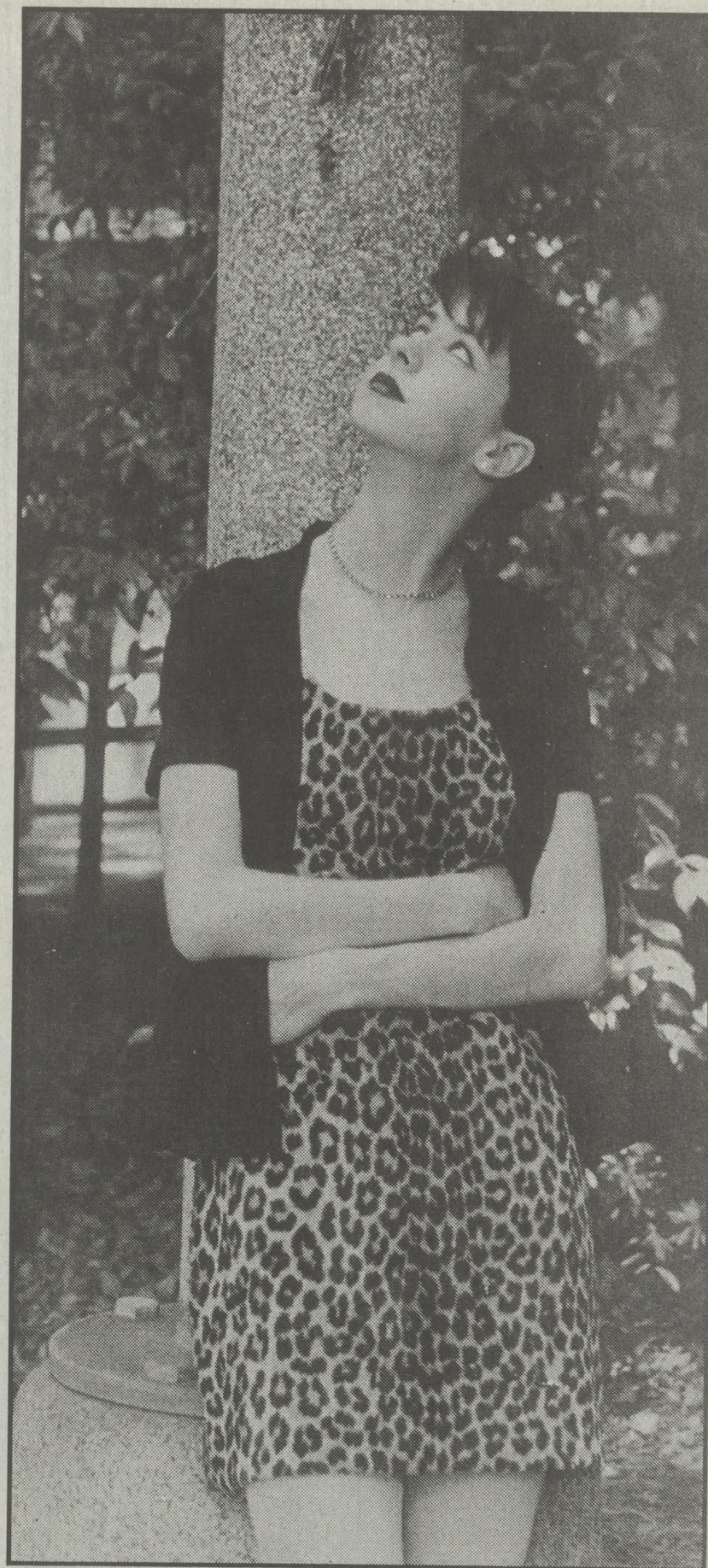
Fashion on campus can be more diverse than others because of the diversity of people who come to Valley. The different generations themselves provide enough variety to ensure a wide array of fashion.

Ethnicity is no longer a factor to be considered, different neighborhoods have taken their place.

Our student population ranges from the poor to the wealthy and everyone in between. Students can be seen going to class in work uniforms while others look as if they just got back from the beach.

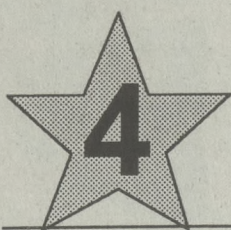
However, fashion does not mean just the clothes people wear. It is important to also consider other elements that make up fashion such as attitude, language, body piercing and tattoos.

The person wearing the clothing is as integral a piece of the fashion statement as are the clothes themselves.



All dressed up and nowhere to go.

Photos and Text
by Andrew Gaspar



FEATURE-ENTERTAINMENT

May 9, 1996

Nursing Students Have Reason to Celebrate

by Kelli Morgan
Valley Star Staff Writer

The Los Angeles Valley College Nursing Department will hold a celebration luncheon to honor National Nurses Week today at noon. The group will also celebrate the Nursing Program itself which recently received an 8-year accreditation from the National League of Nursing. The NLN is an association which promotes high standards in nursing education.

According to Gina Aguirre, director of the Nursing department, Valley College nursing students have met those standards and "Have a 94% rate of passing the California R.N. Examination," given by the Board of Registered Nursing.

Two graduates of the Nursing department will speak during the luncheon presentation in the English building, rooms 100 and 102.

The Nursing department has been a part of Valley College for the past 30 years and offers students associate of science degrees in a two year program. Student enrollment in the program is usually between 180-190 students. This spring, 46 nursing students will graduate with associate of science degrees, and will become certified registered nurses after passing the exam.

On May 14, the Nursing department will again celebrate with an awards banquet honoring four outstanding students

with nursing scholarships. Aguirre said that so far, four out of five students have been selected to receive awards.

The awards being presented will go to: Joe Toth, recipient of the Spirit of Nursing Award, provided by the U.S. Army Reserve; Rado Iliev will receive the Accountable Home Health Scholarship Award; and two students will each receive a Lois Bergquist Scholarship- Christina Achebe and Deborah Adams. The Eva Beckerman Scholarship recipient for a respiratory therapy student has yet to be selected.

The current movement in nursing is toward home health care and ambulatory care or same-day surgical care clinics and out-patient treatment. People are finding it more comfortable and cost effective to stay in their own homes when recovering from some surgeries and procedures, according to NURSEweek Magazine.

Many of the continuing education events, offered by health care training facilities such as The Greater LA/OC Intravenous Nurses Society in Los Angeles, cover topics like "Pain and its Management. Cedar Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles offers education in "Cultural Competency in Health Care." NURSE week also reports that nurses need to be savvy in business as well as medical education to keep up with the shift in nursing careers.

To use the schedule below, locate the day and hour of your class on the grid.

CLASSES MEETING ON	7 AM & 7:30 M or W or F	7 AM & 7:30 T or TH	8 AM & 8:30 M or W or F	8 AM & 8:30 T or TH	9 AM & 9:30 M or W or F	9 AM & 9:30 T or TH	10 AM & 10:30 M or W or F	10 AM & 10:30 T or TH	11 AM & 11:30 M or W or F	11 AM & 11:30 T or TH
FINAL ON	FRI May 24 8-10 am	THURS May 23 8-10 am	MON May 20 8-10 am	TUES May 21 8-10 am	FRI May 17 8-10 am	THURS May 16 8-10 am	WED May 22 10:30 am-12:30 pm	THURS May 23 10:30 am-12:30 pm	MON May 20 10:30 am-12:30 pm	THURS May 16 10:30 am-12:30 pm
CLASSES MEETING ON	12 Noon & 12:30 PM M or W or F	12 Noon & 12:30 PM T or TH	1 PM & 1:30 M or W or F	1 PM & 1:30 T or TH	2 PM & 2:30 M or W or F	2 PM & 2:30 T or TH	3 PM & 3:30 M or W or F	3 PM & 3:30 T or TH	ALL SATURDAY CLASSES	
FINAL ON	FRI May 17 10:30 am-12:30 pm	TUES May 21 10:30 am-12:30 pm	WED May 22 1-3 pm	THURS May 16 1-3 pm	MON May 20 1-3 pm	TUES May 21 1-3 pm	FRI May 17 1-3 pm	THURS May 23 1-3 pm	SAT May 18 Same Time As Class	

In case of conflicts or problems---see instructor.

SPRING SEMESTER 1996

LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE
FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 16, 1996 to Friday, May 24, 1996

Except for classes of less-than-semester length, LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION FOR ALL CLASSES, DAY AND EVENING is Wednesday, May 15, 1996.

Classes which meet only one day per week (modular classes) will have their finals at the first regular class meeting after May 15.

Classes of less-than-semester length will have their final exams at the last meeting of the class.

Evening classes (those meeting after 4:00PM) will have their final exams as follows:

Monday Classes:	May 20	Wednesday Classes:	May 22
Tuesday Classes:	May 21	Thursday Classes:	May 16

Final examinations MUST be held on the DAY AND TIME SCHEDULED and in regularly assigned classrooms. The date of the final examination is determined by the FIRST HOUR a class meets.

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May 9, 1996

FEATURE-ENTERTAINMENT



High Hopes for Ruiz, New ASU President

by Monica Lid
Valley Star Staff Writer

While most Valley College students are finishing off this semester with thoughts of summer and vacations, others have already started planning the fall semester. Among those are Gabriel Ruiz, newly elected ASU president for the upcoming school year.

Ruiz has attended Valley for several semesters but has only served on the ASU executive council for one semester as commissioner of Native American Concerns but he has a great deal of leadership experience from working with MEChA (a Chicano student organization) which Ruiz refers to as an experience he can use as a tool while working for the ASU.

During the summer the new president will meet with a few of next year's commissioners but

most of the positions are yet to be filled.

"I wasn't what one can call a great student. Then I met a few teachers who turned me around. The student experience has given me a lot and I want to give back to the school," said Ruiz. Therefore he decided to run for the ASU presidency.

Ruiz said, next semester we need to get students to participate more and also raise their awareness of what is taking place on campus. One of Ruiz's goals is to get more students voting. He was surprised at the number of students who are not registered voters, something he wants to change for the upcoming US Presidential election in November.

Other important issues are CCRI (California Civil Rights Initiative) and the proposal for raising minimum wages. Ruiz feels these are measures which affect us all as students, and therefore

we should become active.

A suggestion for next semester is to arrange different forums to make information more easily accessible to students. ASU will have an information booth in Monarch Hall on priority registration day, something they hope will help their visibility.

Ruiz said it was disappointing to realize that out of a student body of over 15,000 students, only approximately 360 students voted in the ASU election. But this is apparently a trend throughout California colleges, according to Ruiz.

One project which Robert Lane, Spring semester ASU president, started was to really let people know what their \$7.00 is being used for. Ruiz said he intends to continue Lane's project.

The ASU presidency means a lot to Ruiz who said he is looking forward to the challenge of working for and with the students of Valley College.

Tech Prep: Computer Skills Class

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Carolyn Barnhart, a counselor from Van Nuys High School, felt the overload of students registering was not the fault of the program. She admitted that she herself did not know exactly how many students from her school were going to register for the class. "The lists that we sent weren't the same ones that were sent back," she said.

Naja El-Khoury, one of the Computer Skills teachers, thinks the computer skills class is important because it helps the high school students keep interested in learning and staying in school. One of the major goals of the Tech Prep program is to reach students that would otherwise fall by the wayside and get lost in the system.

El-Khoury thinks the students benefit greatly from gaining skills in the class that will help them compete in the job market. He also believes that the students start to think better of themselves when they start learning new skills and see that they can learn.

El-Khoury was very impressed when some of the students showed extra effort in their work, like using the color printer when they were not required to. "The bottom line is to make sure they feel good about themselves. To show everybody how much how much they have learned and how they can do their work better," he said.

Most of the High School students in the program seem to be enjoying it and getting a lot out of the class. The students were willing to talk but preferred not to give their names.

One student from Van Nuys

High School was very enthusiastic about the program. He was not very knowledgeable about computers before he took the class. Now he is learning so much about them he is considering buying one. Another student from Jack London Continuation School liked the class but did not expect it to be equivalent to a college level class. Even though the teacher moved fast and was strict the student thought he was a very good teacher.

There were a group of student from Albert Einstein High School that did not feel as satisfied with the class. One student felt that she was not being taught anything that she did not know before she took the class. She said her teacher was generally good but he was not able to adequately teach everyone because he could not spend enough time with them. Another student said that some of the computers do not work. Because of this, some of the students got behind and had to double up with someone else on a computer.

"It's a good cause but it's inappropriate to sacrifice our time for it," said Robert Patterson, a lab tech in the CCAIVE and Valley College student, about the class. Patterson did not disapprove of the high school students taking courses here and knows it benefits them to do so. His problem was with the declining availability of the computer labs on campus. "It's bad enough that class after class is being scheduled in the CSIT lab, but to take away all the labs is just insane."

John Beck, system administrator for the Voc-Ed network,

agrees it is unfair to use the labs for the program at the expense of college students. He brought up the point that some students might only be able to use the labs at the time the Tech Prep classes are in session.

Beck also said there was not enough notification that the Tech Prep class was coming. He first found out that they were going to use the CCAIVE an hour before the first class was going to start.

"The bottom line is to make sure they feel good about them selves"

One of the things that upset Beck the most was how the high school students were treating the computers. He has seen the students pound too hard on the keyboards, write on the computer screens with pencils, and stuff paper into disk drives among other abuses. After the Computer Skills class the CCAIVE staff and Beck have to spend extra time to get the computers and equipment back in working order.

"I want to make it really clear that I think this concept of this College in the Afternoon, that is taking high school students and giving them access to high school courses, I think that is a great idea," Beck said, "but I think this particular implementation we had here at Valley was ill conceived and very poorly executed."

The Administrator of the Tech Prep program, John Burke, declined to comment about the Computer Skills class.

Car Crashes Here On Campus

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skid marks before impacting squarely between two of the poles. Campus Police Officer Michael Habicht said the man was lucky to be alive. If the vehicle had hit one of the poles head-on, the driver probably would have been killed by the impact. The Thunderbird had enough momentum to continue through the poles, breaking the front axles, leaving the front tires horizontal.

The Thunderbird was allegedly driven by Samuel P. Plunkett. The driver of the vehicle left the scene creating a misdemeanor hit-and-run but since no witnesses could

place Plunkett at the scene, no criminal charges have been filed. In a follow-up investigation, Habicht interviewed Plunkett who admitted to being behind the wheel when the accident occurred. Plunkett agreed to pay restitution to Valley College for the damages incurred by the accident.

Plunkett sustained injuries to his left eye, including several skull fractures around the eye. Habicht said the man was apparently under the influence of alcohol at the time of the accident, according to Plunkett's statement given during the follow-up interview.

Two campus police officers were asked how many accidents have occurred on the Valley College campus this semester. Neither officer could remember any accidents. The officers did stipulate there are accidents in which both parties exchange information without the help of campus police.

If you are involved in an accident or are a witness to one, dial 299 from any phone on campus to reach the campus police office. The campus police have an average response time of two minutes, according to Officer Spencer Gosenson.

Valley's Most Famous Critic

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ing, Richmond is expecting his third child in June. Two years into his second marriage, Richmond is excited at the prospect of another child. Being a parent is even more rewarding than being a journalist, according to Richmond.

Richmond's philosophy regarding journalism and the entertainment industry is fairly simple but well worth taking a second look at. "My philosophy is, you had better treat people well or you're not going to last. Treat people well and you'll be treated well. It's integrity. It's all about people more than bettering yourself."

The old saying, 'If you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours' is in effect but Richmond warns, "If you have to step on too many

backs in order to get the story, and screw too many people over, you know it's not worth getting."

But getting some things is okay. Richmond disclosed that he found journalism to be an excellent way to get laid. Having women pursue him, after being a shy fat kid in high school was a new and intriguing experience.

Working on the Valley Star in the late 1970s helped Richmond blossom into a human being and gave him great confidence almost overnight. "It helped give me the confidence that I really could do this writing gig. Until then, I hadn't really written a lot and being at Valley showed me that I could get published, not screw up and have people read my stuff and actually enjoy it."

After winning the writer of the

year award twice at Valley College, Richmond was well on his way to becoming a star. At a JACC competition he took third place in the on-the-spot sports writing competition. Valley College was a catalyst in Richmond's life that is still there. And now he's going to be writing for the Daily Variety.

The future looms large in Richmond's life and he is actively seeking it. At a recent cable convention Richmond was cornered in the press room because people kept wanting to talk with him and make luncheon dates. "It's so funny, suddenly I'm a big shot." Nobody who cared before suddenly cares, he said. "I had trouble getting out of the press room because of publicist types wanting to talk but it was really flattering."

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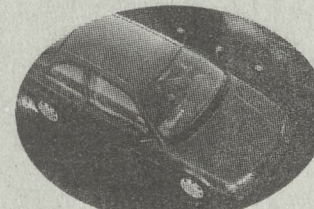
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"Chaunsey" Takes the Field: A Personal Look at a Future Superstar

by John Tarr
Valley Star Staff Writer

The cool breeze of the early morning brushes past 18-year old Charles Lee as he jogs near his home in Hansen Hills, taking a 15 minute warm-up jog.

His training day starts early and continues through another two sessions for a total of about two and a half hours.

For an hour and a half each day, track and field head coach Kevin Galbraith watches Charles "Chaunsey" Lee train for his dream, the 2000 Olympics.

"He's very personable, very mature for his age, he has a solid countenance," said Galbraith of his star athlete. "He's confident but not cocky."

Two weeks ago, Lee took first place in the conference championships 100 and 200 meter races with electronic times of 10.7 seconds and 21.17 seconds, respectively.

"Winning the 100 meter race at the conference championship was a big accomplishment," said Chaunsey. "They didn't take me

seriously in the 100 and when I was in it, they ran a good race but I came out victorious."

Graduating from Cleveland High School in 1995, freshman Lee went to San Francisco City College but decided to move home again and go to Valley College.

"Tim Knappen mentioned the program and he didn't think that somebody running in my caliber would come to LA Valley so when I came he was shocked. I feel that I absolutely made the right choice. I love the coaches, I love the team, I love the school."

Track and field is in Lee's blood. His father has been a track coach for over 20 years. Both of Lee's older sisters ran track, one for Valley College in 1982-83.

Lee started running seven years ago and has no plans to stop anytime soon. He was ranked 7th fastest in California in the 200 meters and 10th in the 100 meters his senior year at Cleveland.

To Lee, running track is just like working. "The more you work, it's like getting paid and you collect your money just like you do when you come out here and practice hard. My mom taught me, there's only one other person

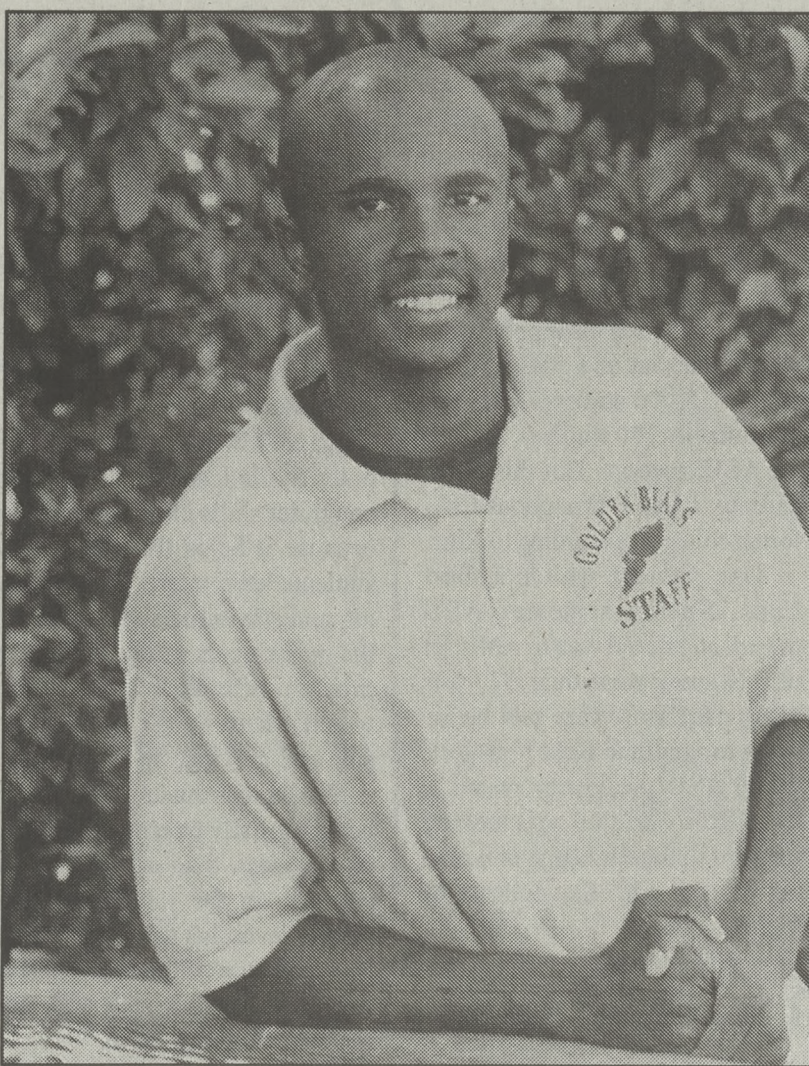


Photo by Maria Ivey

Charles "Chaunsey" Lee looks forward to the 2000 Olympics. that I'm racing and that's the clock."

UCLA track coach, John Smith, talked to Lee after his senior year in high school. Lee remembered what Smith said, if he was productive at a junior college, "He (Smith) would be glad to take me."

Is a scholarship in Lee's future? "I'm very certain. As long as I stay healthy and continue to stay focused and train as hard as I do. My academics come first. Track

is just something that can help me get through college. Lee's future plans include getting a degree in education so he can teach track to kids. Presently, he helps his father coach the North Valley Golden Bears track club.

"That's where I started off. The Golden Bears all respect me. I've worked hard to be where I'm at. Some of the kids say they want to be just like Chaunsey. That makes me feel extremely good, and it makes me practice even harder," said Lee.

The atmosphere of Valley College is extremely conducive to Lee's success. He also commented on the wonderful support his family, coaches and friends have given him.

"I know that it's something that's always going to be there. I made the right decision, coming here, absolutely. I'm looking forward to running here for two years."

Lee credits his family for his success. He said they have supported him throughout everything he does.

"Without my family, I don't know where I'd be as far as track is concerned."

Staying focused and running his race and no one else's, are qualities instilled in Lee by his father whom he admires very much.

According to Lee, track is 90% mental and the other 10% is the preparation and training. He said his father always told him to stay focused and train very hard, it would pay off at the end, always.

High School Players Honored in "Monarch Challenge"

By Sierra Roberts
Valley Star Staff Writer

On Monday June 10, Valley College will host "The Monarch Challenge," the San Fernando Valley High School All-Star football game, in Monarch Stadium at 6:00 p.m. Over 50 Valley high schools will participate in the event which honors the best high school players in the area.

Head football coach for Valley College, Jim Fenwick, decided to pick up the game after the Daily News stopped sponsoring it one year ago. Said Fenwick, "We're in the business of playing football and the Daily News is not."

The event is not a fund-raiser for the Monarchs but rather a means of honoring outstanding high school players and exposing them to college athletics. "We're working hard to promote high school football," Fenwick said.

A committee was set up to pick the most outstanding players and coaches with successful seasons from the various high schools. Thus far coaches from Kennedy, Franklin and Reseda high schools have been chosen to head up the City Section team. The Southern Section team will be lead by coaches from Chaminade, Notre Dame, and Montclair Prep high schools. The teams will have 10 practices each prior to the game.

Coach Fenwick said, "We have good support from the administration and staff, and this is a great way to expose the campus, ... it's good P.R. for Valley."

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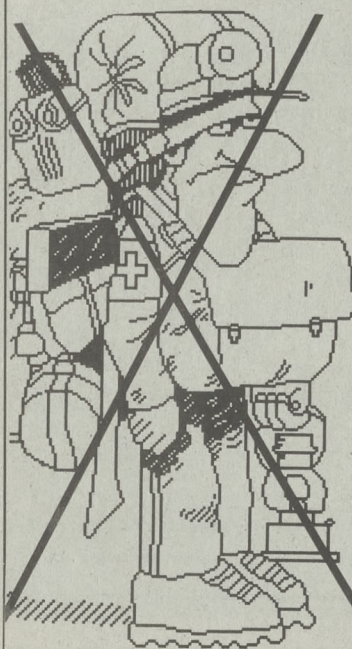
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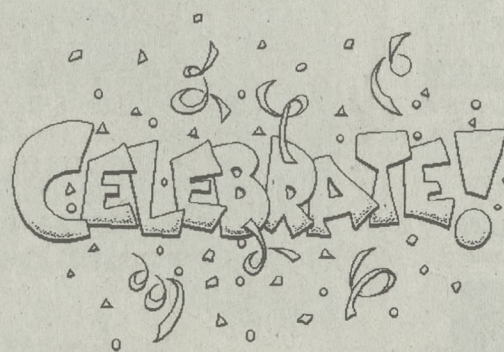
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